

Message Text

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17

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13 OMB-01 ACDA-07 SCCT-01 DHA-02

SAM-01 AID-05 /107 W

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R 271215Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1400

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY BANGUI

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, PINS, CD

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT OUTLINES INTERNAL POLITICAL

SITUATION OF COUNTRY IN INTERVIEW WITH FRENCH JOURNALISTS;

STATES REBELS RECEIVING SUPPORT FROM ALGERIA, LIBYA, AND FRENCH
LEFTISTS.

1. IN INTERVIEW WITH FRENCH TELEVISION BROADCAST RADIO CHAD
EVENING APRIL 24, GOC PRESIDENT MALLOUM RESPONDED FRANKLY
TO QUESTIONS ON INTERNAL SECURITY AND STATUS OF REBEL FORCES.
PRESIDENT STATED INVESTIGATIONS APRIL 13 ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT
STILL IN PROGRESS, BUT RESULTS WILL BE ANNOUNCED. PRESIDENT
CHARACTERIZED FROLINAT AS GROUP INTERESTED IN OVERTHROWING
PRESENT REGIME BUT ONE WHICH COULD NOT MAKE SERIOUS CLAIM TO
"LIBERATION OF COUNTRY." SUPREME MILITARY COUNCIL OVERTHREW
TOMBALBAYE REGIME TO ESTABLISH PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT WHICH WAS
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AS ITS PRINCIPAL PURPOSE ESTABLISHMENT NEW INSTITUTIONS SATISFACTORY

TO ALL.

2. MALLOUM NOTED THAT SEVERAL MALCONTENTS OF DIFFERING VIEWS UNDER GENERAL UMBRELLA OF FROLINAT (HISSAN HABRE; EL-BAKHALANI; AND ABBA SIDDICK "WHO COMMANDS ONLY HIS SMALL OFFICE"). IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION AS TO SOURCE OF AID TO REBEL GROUPS, MALLOUM REPLIED THAT FROLINAT ALLEGED RESPONSIBILITY FOR APRIL 13 ATTEMPT, AND HAS OFFICES IN ALGIERS AND TRIPOLI AND IT IS "THESE COUNTRIES FROM WHICH IT RECEIVES AID. THERE ARE ALSO FRENCH PARTIES OF THE LEFT WHO SUPPORT FROLINAT. AND WE HAVE PROOF."

3. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION ON STATUS OF "AOUZOU STRIP" OF NORTHERN CHAD ALONG LIBYAN FRONTIER, PRESIDENT SAID TERRITORY IS CHADIAN ALTHOUGH "THIS SECTOR IS PRESENTLY OCCUPIED BY LIBYA AND EVERYONE KNOWS IT." HE REFERRED TO 1935 ITALIAN-FRENCH AGREEMENT WHICH CITED BY LIBYA AS BASIS THEIR CLAIM, NOTING IT HAD NEVER BEEN RATIFIED AND THAT CHADIAN MILITARY HAD REPLACED FRENCH MILITARY IN 1965 AND REMAINED UNTIL 1968 (WHEN ABANDONED TO REBELS) AS PROOF CHADIAN SOVEREIGNTY.

4. MME. CLAUSTRE REMAINS CAPTIVE IN TIBESTI, ACCORDING TO PRESIDENT. HE HAD FORMALLY OBJECTED TO GOF ON PRESENCE OF FRENCH GAMA JOURNALISTS IN TIBESTI AS THEY HAD ENTERED COUNTRY ILLEGALLY FROM ALGERIA AND NIGER. PRESIDENT ALLEGED THAT JOURNALISTS WITH THEIR TWO LAND ROVERS HAD PARTICIPATED IN FEBRUARY 17 REBEL ATTACK ON FAYA LARGEAU. DWYER

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